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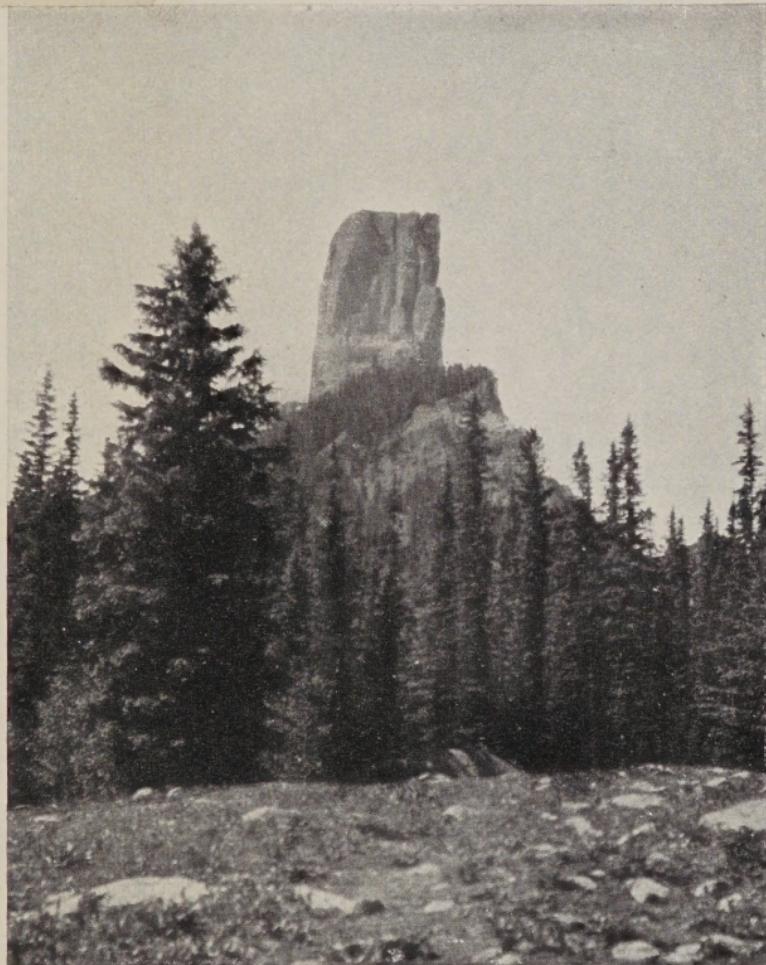
UNCOMPAHGRE NATIONAL FOREST

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Reserve

COLORADO



Chimney Peak.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
U.S. FOREST SERVICE
ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION

Issued 1935

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UNCOMPAHGRE NATIONAL FOREST

THE NATIONAL FORESTS

In the United States and the Territories of Alaska and Puerto Rico, there are about 140 national forests, comprising more than 162,000,000 acres of land. The administration of the national forests is entrusted to the Forest Service of the United States Department of Agriculture, whose main objectives are to perpetuate the supply of timber through proper use and manage-

B. E. S. OCT 27 1941



Trail to High Mesa in the Uncompahgre National Forest.

F-30179 A

ment and to preserve the forest and ground cover. The preservation of a satisfactory cover is an important factor in preventing erosion and regulating the flow of streams. So far as is consistent with these objectives, provision is made for the fullest possible use of all the other resources of the forests, such as waterpower, forage, minerals, and recreation.

The Uncompahgre National Forest was established by President Theodore Roosevelt's proclamation of June 14, 1905. Its area is 850,078 acres, of which 89,972 acres is owned by the State of Colorado and private interests. The forest is located in the southwestern section of the State of Colorado, on the western slope of the Continental Divide. The northern or Uncompahgre division lies on the crest and slopes of the rolling, mesa-like Uncompahgre Plateau, and is drained by the San Miguel, Dolores, Uncompahgre, and Gunnison Rivers. The southern or Ouray division lies on the northern slopes of the San Juan Mountains, a spur range extending north and west from the Continental Divide. This division is drained by the Uncompahgre and Gunnison Rivers. The fertile portion of the Uncompahgre River valley lies north and east of the forest. The headquarters of the forest supervisor is located in the town of Delta.

UNCOMPAHGRE FOREST HISTORY

A short distance north of the town of Ridgway are hot springs surrounded by a red deposit consisting mainly of iron oxide. The Ute Indians, who were undoubtedly the earliest inhabitants of the valley, called these springs "Uncompahgre", which signifies "red water springs", and it is from this that the river, forest, and the forest's highest peak received their names.

The first white men to explore this region were those in the expedition under the leadership of Padre Francisco Silvestre Escalante and Padre Antanacio Dominguez. Those at the head of the Spanish Missions in New Mexico were urged by their superiors to explore a route from Santa Fe to the coast of Upper California, and it was with this object in view that the expedition of Escalante and Dominguez was undertaken in the spring of 1776. Taking a northwesterly course from

Santa Fe by way of the San Juan and Dolores Rivers, Escalante crossed the Uncompahgre Plateau along the northern base of the rugged San Juan Mountains and camped in Uncompahgre Park (Canada Honda), about 4 miles north of the present town of Ouray, early in 1777. From this camp explorations were carried on in the deep, rugged canyons of the Escalante and Dominguez Creeks, which are not far from the present town of Delta. These creeks still bear the names of the explorers.

From 1777 until 1837 the region was undisturbed by white men. During the latter year a French trapper named Joseph Roubideau penetrated the country in search of beaver. He established his camp on Roubideau Creek, about 7 miles west of the present town of Delta. From that time until 1873, only an occasional trapper or prospector in search of gold entered this stronghold of the Utes. The discovery of gold in paying quantities in 1873 marked the first permanent settlement in the locality now known as the old ghost town of Mineral Point. In this year the "San Juan Treaty" between the Utes and the United States Government was consummated. By its terms the Utes ceded to the United States 4,000,000 acres of their rich domain. In 1880 another treaty was made, whereby the Confederated Utes agreed to sell their reservation in Colorado and move to Utah. In August 1881 the remnants of this once powerful tribe started the march to their new reservation in the desert of Utah, far from the famous "red water springs" of their forefathers.

TIMBER RESOURCES AND MANAGEMENT

It is estimated that there are 1,665,000,000 feet, board measure, of merchantable timber on the Uncompahgre National Forest, of which 76 percent is Engelmann spruce, 11 percent ponderosa pine, 10 percent corkbark fir, 2 percent Douglas fir, and 1 percent white fir. Engelmann spruce and corkbark fir, which constitute 86 percent of the total stand, are valuable pulpwood species.

Timber management plans have been prepared to include all the stands of timber on the forest. The plans provide for the harvesting of the timber only as rapidly as it will be replaced by new growth. The



Ponderosa pine timber.

trees to be cut are designated by trained forest officers. Only mature, diseased, defective, dying, and insect-infested trees are selected for cutting. The remaining trees are healthy and range in size from saplings to large, immature trees. Trees that have been suppressed because of lack of moisture and sunlight are released when cutting is done and make more rapid growth and yield a better product. By adherence to such a cutting policy, timber may be harvested perpetually in cycles varying from 40 to 80 years.

The timber resources on the forest have been only slightly developed, and the annual cut is but a small fraction of the annual growth.

Logging operations have been confined largely to the ponderosa pine and spruce stands on the Uncompahgre Plateau, lumber being the major product manufactured. During recent years, several small sawmills in the vicinity of Ouray have been operated in Engelmann spruce for the production of lumber and mine timbers. It is contemplated that future extensive operations in the spruce stands will be for the production of pulp-wood, used in the manufacture of newsprint. Aspen, which was formerly considered chiefly valuable from a watershed protective standpoint, has been found to be well adapted for boxes, crates, and other containers. Butter, cheese, eggs, and other products which are quick to absorb the odor of the material in which they are packed may be shipped with safety in aspen-wood containers. The possibilities of developing a market for aspen are encouraging.

PRINCIPAL TREES OF THE UNCOMPAHGRE

CONIFERS

PINES.—Three species. The pines have their needles gathered together at the base in bundles of from two to five. The cones are woody and pendent.

MONDEROSA PINE (*Pinus ponderosa*).—This tree was formerly known as western yellow pine. Needles 4 to 7 inches long, deep green, usually three in a bundle, but sometimes two, and in tufts at the ends of the branches. Cones 3 to 5 inches long. Cone scales armed with spines. When young, the bark is dark and the tree is often called "blackjack" or "bull" pine. When older, the bark is yellowish and occurs in thick scaly ridges.

LIMBER PINE (*Pinus flexilis*).—Fine, almost silky, dark green needles, 1½ to 3 inches long, always in bundles of five. Cones, 3 to 10 inches long, with seeds about ½ inch long. Cone scales smooth. Bark light gray or silvery white, except on old trunks, which are blackish brown and furrowed.

PINON PINE OR PINON (*Pinus edulis*).—Pinon is confined to the foothills. Needles ⅔ to 1¼ inches long, in clusters of two, and rarely of three. Cones 1½ inches long and almost as broad. Large seeds which are the common pinon nuts of commerce.

SPRUCE.—Two species. Needles scattered over the twigs singly. Needles sharp pointed, four sided, leaving twigs rough like a grater when they fall off. Cones pendent with parchment-like scales, falling off the tree whole.

ENGELMANN SPRUCE (*Picea engelmannii*).—The new-growth twigs are covered with soft short hairs. Needles less rigid and less sharply pointed than those of blue spruce; green, dark blue, or pale steel blue. Cones 1 to 2 inches long. Bark is dark reddish brown, and separates in the form of small rounded scales. Main trunk, in contrast to blue spruce, is smooth and clean.

BLUE SPRUCE (*Picea pungens*).—The new-growth twigs are always smooth. Needles stiff with sharp points, varying in color from silvery blue to green. Cones from 2 to 5 inches long, averaging twice the length of Engelmann spruce cones. Bark of mature trunks gray and deeply furrowed. Main trunk always has numerous short twigs pushing out between branches.

FIRS.—Three species. Needles blunt, flat, and soft to the touch, without any stem where they join branches. Needles leave flat, round scars when they fall off, in contrast to short stubs left by spruce needles on twigs. Cones, unlike those of other species, stand erect. In the fall, the cones fall to pieces and leave only a spike on the branch. Buds blunt and pitchy. Blisters, containing liquid pitch or balsam, are scattered over the smoother bark.

ALPINE FIR (*Abies lasiocarpa*).—Flat needles 1 to 1¼ inches long. Needles tend to turn upward. Cones 2¼ to 4 inches long, dark purple. Bark smooth, grayish white, becoming furrowed only where the tree approaches a foot in diameter. Tree has a sharp, spire-like crown. Usually found mixed with Engelmann spruce.

WHITE FIR (*Abies concolor*).—Needles longer and coarser than those of alpine fir, often 2 inches or more long. Grows at lower altitudes, often with ponderosa pine and Douglas fir. Cones usually larger than those of alpine fir, commonly dark purple, sometimes grayish green. Wood is similar to that of alpine fir.

CORKBARK FIR (*Abies arizonica*).—The trunk, crown, cones, and leaves of the corkbark and alpine fir are so alike in general appearance that the two cannot be readily distinguished by these features. The cone scales of the corkbark fir, however, are different from those of the alpine, as are also the bracts borne on the backs of the scales. The ashy-gray, soft, corky trunk-bark of corkbark fir alone readily distinguishes this tree from the alpine fir.

DOUGLAS FIR (*Pseudotsuga taxifolia*).—Though similar in name, this species has no direct connection with the true fir. Needles flat, $\frac{3}{4}$ to $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches long, with a short stem that joins them to the branches. Cones with three-pronged bracts, protruding from between the cone scales. Cones persistent, falling off the tree whole. Buds are pointed, shiny, smooth, red-brown.

JUNIPERS OR CEDARS.—Three species. Cones reduced to small bluish berries, needles reduced to little green scales attached closely to the twigs, though sometimes spreading and about $\frac{1}{2}$ inch long, making twigs very prickly to the touch.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN RED CEDAR (*Juniperus scopulorum*).—Berries about the size of small peas, bark scaly, twigs slender and graceful, heartwood red. Distinguished from Utah and one-seed juniper by two seeds (usually) in the berry, whereas the others usually have but one. Berries are bluish or black, while the others are reddish or copper-colored.

ONE-SEED JUNIPER (*Juniperus monosperma*).—Berries small, mostly less than $\frac{1}{4}$ inch in diameter, usually contain only one seed; they are covered with a bluish bloom which may be rubbed off exposing the true reddish or copper color. Berries of the one-seed juniper require only 1 year to mature. Twigs stiff and stout. Heartwood brown.

UTAH JUNIPER (*Juniperus utahensis*).—Berries $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{3}$ inch long. Bark ashy-gray, about $\frac{1}{4}$ inch thick, broken into long thin scales. Wood light brown, with nearly white sap-wood. Berries are reddish brown, have one or rarely two seeds, mature in 2 years. A small, bushy tree, rarely over 20 feet high.

BROADLEAF TREES

ASPEN (*Populus tremuloides*)—(Commonly called "quaking aspen" or "quakers").—Flat, nearly heart-shaped leaves about 2 inches across, that tremble characteristically in a breeze. Bark whitish or very pale green; smooth, with black scars where branches have dropped off. Trees rarely more than 60 feet high.

NARROWLEAF COTTONWOOD (*Populus angustifolia*).—Usually a tall tree, 40 to 60 feet high. Bark dark gray, heavily ridged half or two-thirds of the way up the tree; above that smooth, pale green. Leaves $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ inch wide by 2 or 3 inches long; very similar to willow leaves. Usually found along streams at lower elevations.

ALDER (*Alnus tenuifolia*).—Found along and overhanging the streams, usually in clumps, several trees growing from the same root, frequently 4 to 6 inches in diameter and 15 to 25 feet high. Leaves large and sharply double-toothed. Mature seed-bearing fruit noticeable in winter.

BOXELDER (*Acer negundo*).—Leaves compound, three to five on a single stalk. Tree low and freely branched, 25 to 40 feet high and up to 12 inches in diameter, has drooping clusters of greenish flowers. Seed is paired and winged.

MOUNTAIN MAPLE (*Acer glabrum*).—Usually a shrub, but frequently 20 to 30 feet high. Has paired opposite buds, sharply lobed leaves, light gray bark, and paired, winged seed. Leaves 1 to 2 inches long, opposite each other.

MOUNTAIN BIRCH (*Betula fontinalis*).—The old bark is glossy, reddish brown, and marked by pale brown, longitudinal lenticels which often become 6 to 8 inches long and $\frac{1}{4}$ inch wide. The old twigs are rough with many hard drops of resin. Seldom more than 25 feet high in Colorado; usually occurs in clumps and has a graceful, almost delicate appearance.

WESTERN CHOKE CHERRY (*Prunus demissa*).—Clustered flowers and fruit. Alternate leaves, sharply pointed. Bark, leaves, and seed bitter. Fruit black. Tree, or more often a shrub, 3 to 15 feet high.

SCRUB OAK (*Quercus gunnisonii*).—Usually small and brushy, and seldom more than 15 to 20 feet high. Alternate leaves, smaller at the base than at the ends, with deep lobes; frequently drying on the tree and remaining over winter. Fruit, a short, pointed acorn. Forms dense thickets at lower elevations. Often valuable for fence posts.

WILLOWS (*Salix sp.*).—The common shrub of creek bottoms. Usually narrow, sharp-pointed leaves. Some willows attain a diameter of 4 inches and a height of 15 to 25 feet. Buds are covered by a single scale.

WESTERN SERVICEBERRY (*Amelanchier alnifolia*).—Leaves silvery, sharply toothed toward the end, and alternate on branches. Trees, or more often shrubs, 6 to 15 feet high. Flowers white and in clusters. Five hard seeds in each berry. Berries edible, nearly black when ripe.

HACKBERRY (*Celtis occidentalis crassifolia*).—Leaves light green and lustrous, broad ovate, gradually or abruptly contracted into long narrow points, and alternate on branches. Trees, or more often shrubs, 4 to 10 feet high. Flowers white tinged with red, in drooping clusters. Fruit on slender stem, dark purple, with dark orange-colored flesh, and a light brown nut.



WATERSHED PROTECTION

The entire forest area has a good ground cover of trees, shrubs, and plant growth. As a result of regulated use of the grazing and timber resources, the cover density is gradually improving.

Erosion is a small factor inside the forest, but outside on the unappropriated public domain, where grazing and timber cutting are not regulated, erosion is an ever-increasing problem.



Middle Fork of Big Cimarron River.

F-62130

GRAZING

Stock raising is the principal industry in the valleys adjacent to the forest. Approximately 170,000 sheep and 35,000 cattle are owned by the ranchers, nearly all of whom are dependent upon the forest for summer range. The forest furnishes range for about 29,000 cattle and 43,000 sheep, owned by 238 permittees.

While a considerable portion of the forest is heavily timbered, there are extensive areas on which the timber grows in stands sufficiently open to permit a luxuriant growth of palatable grasses and weeds. There are also numerous parks scattered throughout the densely forested areas. These areas are excellent for cattle grazing.

On the Ouray Division of the forest, broad, rolling, well-watered meadows are found at the higher elevations, mostly above timber line. The plants are succulent and highly palatable. These meadows are used by sheep, and it is surprising how much more weight the lambs grazed here will put on than lambs grazed at lower elevations.

Forest rangers carefully inspect the various ranges during the grazing season to determine whether: (1) The range plants are ready for grazing; (2) the cattle are well distributed on the range; (3) sheep herders are following the open herding and bedding-out system of handling sheep; (4) the ranges are uniformly and not too closely utilized; (5) the stocking is excessive and whether it will permit about 25 percent of the palatable forage plants to mature and seed the ranges.

Range improvements (drift fences, larkspur eradication, stock trails, and water developments) that will aid range management are usually handled by the Forest Service. Improvements that are more for convenience than for better range management are the responsibility of the stockmen concerned.

RECREATION

The Uncompahgre National Forest is one of the playgrounds for visitors and people living in the towns of Grand Junction, Delta, Olathe, Montrose, Ridgway,



Sheep on a mountain meadow.

8-9521

and Ouray. Each year the number of recreational visitors increases, largely because of the new Divide Road, which traverses the entire length of the Uncompahgre Plateau and the constant improvement of existing auto roads. For 82 miles the Divide Road winds through large grassy parks and beautiful stands of spruce, pine, or aspen timber at elevations varying from 8,500 to 9,500 feet above sea level. At various points along the route, there are unusual views of Grand Mesa, the Uncompahgre and the San Miguel River valleys, the Paradox drainages, and the rugged La Sal, Blue, and Henry Mountains in Utah.



Steers on National Forest Range.

The locality about the town of Ouray has justly been called the "Switzerland of America", because of the ruggedness and beauty of the mountains and canyons. Snow-capped peaks tower from 5,000 to 6,000 feet above the streets of Ouray; their sides are scarred and seamed, with overhanging granite cliffs and talus slopes. Tumbling streams, fed by banks of perpetual snow, culminate in beautiful waterfalls, and the green forests which clothe the lower slopes of the mountains bear the scars of snowslides.



Divide Road.

F-263534

To meet the recreational needs of the public and to lessen the risk of disastrous forest fires, numerous convenient, well-equipped camp grounds have been developed at accessible and attractive points. These camp grounds are in perfect harmony with their surroundings and have developed water supplies, metal cooking stoves, tables, toilets, facilities for garbage disposal, and are fenced against livestock. No charge is made for their use.

Modest tourist resorts are located in or near the forest along the Lake Fork of the Gunnison River, at Lake City and Lake San Cristobal, and in the vicinity of Ridgway and Ouray. Excellent hotel accommodations are available at Ouray, Montrose, Delta, and Grand Junction.





F-29525 A
Looking across town of Ouray to White House Mountain (13,496 feet),
in center.

MINING

Since the first prospectors penetrated the region, about the middle of the nineteenth century, the mining of metallic ores has been an industry of importance within the Uncompahgre National Forest. Just prior to the beginning of the present century, the mining camps of Lake City and Ouray boasted populations of several thousand inhabitants and were two of the more famous and colorful camps of the region. Of less importance, but equally as colorful, were Sherman, Capitol City, and Mineral Point, all of which are now "ghost towns."

In the vicinity of Lake City, Sherman, and Capitol City, the production of gold was of secondary importance, the principal metals extracted being silver, copper, lead, and zinc. The most famous mine in this region was the Ute-Ulay, while the Golden Fleece and Hidden Treasure have also produced much ore of high value. The famous Camp Bird Mine is not far from Ouray. It has poured out a treasure in gold and silver valued at millions of dollars, and is one of the mines that is still being worked.



Smokehouse Spring Camp Ground.

F-281040

Much of the rich mining country in Ouray County lies within the Uncompahgre National Forest. From 1878 to 1934 precious and base metals have been produced to a total value of \$80,542,217, according to the Bureau of Mines. Of this total production, about 46 percent was gold, 41 percent silver, 9 percent lead, and 4 percent copper. Small quantities of zinc have also been produced.

In Hinsdale County the principal mines have been in the vicinity of Lake City and Capitol City, and here likewise many of the important producers have been located within the boundaries of the forest. Production in this county from 1875 to 1934, inclusive, has been valued by the Bureau of Mines at \$10,660,181. Here, silver has been first in value with 43 percent, followed by lead with 38 percent, 14 percent gold, 4 percent copper, and 1 percent zinc.

Adjacent to the forest boundaries along the San Miguel and Dolores Rivers large deposits of vanadium ore have been found. Large fields of bituminous and anthracite coal are located on or adjacent to the forest.

The mineral resources within the forest are open to development under the same laws that govern mining on unreserved public lands.

FISH AND GAME

The Lake Fork of the Gunnison, Big Blue Creek, the Big and Little Cimarron Creeks, the East and West Dallas Creeks, and Crystal Lake are favorite spots for Waltonians. These streams are stocked at periodic intervals with eastern brook and rainbow trout from both State and Federal hatcheries, with the cooperation of the Forest Service, interested individuals, and civic organizations. During the last few years the Forest Service alone has planted from 40,000 to 50,000 trout of fry and fingerling size annually in the streams within the forest boundaries. The natural presence of arsenic in solution in the Uncompahgre River prevents the stocking of this stream.

The most recent estimate indicates that there are about 300 mountain sheep, 200 elk, 1,300 mule deer, and 400 black or brown bears within this region. There are also mountain lion, Canada lynx, and bobcats. Beaver are found in all drainages. Fox, marten, mink, weasel, and badgers are plentiful.



Camp Bird Mine.

F-213401

In 1922 seven elk were planted in the amphitheater at Ouray, and in 1928 eighteen were liberated on the Uncompahgre Plateau southwest of Delta. Both herds have increased rapidly because of natural elk ranges and a closed season in this portion of the State. Game management plans have been prepared by the Forest Service for the efficient handling of elk and deer in the forest. It was the lure of the beaver pelt which first drew the trapper into this region early in the nineteenth century, and these animals were so vigorously hunted that only a few years ago they had become almost extinct. The observance of the law prohibiting the trapping and killing of these animals, except for



Beaver at work.

the protection of crops and improvements, during later years has resulted in their very rapid increase. Today nearly every stream in the Uncompahgre Forest has its quota of these industrious animals, and their numerous dams afford excellent fishing, are of great benefit as fish-rearing ponds, and in conserving water for the use of range stock and irrigation purposes during dry seasons.

The popularity of hunting here, as in many other sections of the Rocky Mountains, has made serious inroads on available game. In order to increase the number of game animals, an area of 53,120 acres, known as the Ouray State Game Refuge, has been set aside within the forest in the vicinity of Ouray, for the propagation and protection of game and fur-bearing animals. Game refuges have been established in nearly all national forests throughout the State. No hunting is permitted in these refuges.

UNCOMPAHGRE PRIMITIVE AREA

The Uncompahgre Primitive Area was selected because of its exceptionally rugged mountain beauty and grandeur. The method of travel today is the same as that used 50 years ago, and the area, because of topography, difficulty of transportation, wild life, and all the qualities that make a locality attractive to the hardy mountain climber and the naturalist is admirably adapted for the purpose of a primitive area.

The Primitive Area as a whole is as rugged country as will be found anywhere. The slopes will average nearly 50 percent in steepness. Sheer granite cliffs hundreds of feet high are quite common. The whole locality is one of high, jagged, steep mountain peaks; deep, precipitous, rugged, and variegated canyons;

beautiful, high waterfalls; lakes set in austere backgrounds; and extensive timber areas.

Maj. Alexander E. Powell, a writer for the National Geographic Magazine, said he had traveled all over the world, that he had seen more beautiful individual mountain peaks, canyons, lakes, and open mountain country, but that he had never seen them all in a group that would compare with the scenery of the Uncompahgre Primitive Area.

Uncompahgre Peak, near the eastern edge of the Uncompahgre Primitive Area, is the highest point, 14,306 feet above sea level. Other prominent peaks within the area are Sneffels, elevation 14,143 feet; Wetterhorn, 14,020; Potosi, 13,763; Matterhorn, 13,587; Whitehouse, 13,496; Mears, 13,488; Wildhorse, 13,271. The lowest points on the area are in excess of 9,700 feet elevation.

ROADS AND TRAILS

There are good automobile roads on the Uncompahgre National Forest, as indicated on the accompanying map. In addition, numerous old mining roads and trails lead to practically all parts of the forest. Among the most interesting roads on or adjacent to the forest are the Divide Road, the Iola-Lake City Road, and the world-famous Durango-Red Mountain Highway, better known as "The Million Dollar Highway", which extends across the Ouray Division from Ouray to Durango, via the famous mining town of Silverton. The "circle trip", on horseback from Ouray to American Flats over the Horsethief and Bear Creek Trails, is one of the most spectacular trips of its kind in the United States.



INFORMATION

The Uncompahgre National Forest is divided into five districts, each of which is administered by a forest ranger, under the general control of the forest supervisor. Information may be obtained from any of these forest officers at the following addresses:

Forest Supervisor, Delta, Colo.
Forest Ranger, North End District, Whitewater, Colo.
Forest Ranger, Delta District, Delta, Colo.
Forest Ranger, Miguel District, Montrose, Colo.
Forest Ranger, Ouray District, Ouray, Colo.
Forest Ranger, Alpine District, Lake City.

SIX RULES FOR HEALTH PROTECTION

- 1. Purification.**—Mountain streams will not purify themselves in a few hundred feet. Boil or chlorinate all suspected water.
- 2. Garbage.**—Burn or bury all garbage, papers, tin cans, and old clothes.
- 3. Excretions.**—Bury a foot deep all human excretions, at least 100 feet from streams, lakes, or springs.
- 4. Washing.**—Do not wash soiled clothing, utensils, or bodies in streams, lakes, or springs. Use a container and throw used water on the ground away from the water supply.
- 5. Toilets.**—Use public toilets if available. They are properly located. Toilets should be at least 100 feet from streams and not in gulches.
- 6. Obeying laws.**—Observe the rules and endeavor to have others do the same. National and State laws impose heavy penalties for health-law violations. Report all violations or unsanitary conditions (including dead animals) to the nearest health officer or forest officer.

SIX RULES FOR PREVENTION OF FOREST FIRES

- 1. Matches.**—Be sure your match is out. Break it in two before you throw it away.
- 2. Tobacco.**—Be sure that pipe ashes and cigar or cigarette stubs are dead out before throwing them away. Never throw them in brush, leaves, or needles. Do not smoke while traveling through the woods.
- 3. Making camp.**—Before building fire, scrape away all inflammable material from a spot 5 feet in diameter. Dig a hole in the center and in it build your camp fire. Keep your fire small. Never build it against trees, logs, or near brush. Where available use grates and stoves which have been provided.
- 4. Breaking camp.**—Never break camp until your fire is out—**DEAD OUT. USE WATER**, where available.
- 5. Brush burning.**—Never burn slash or brush in windy weather or while there is the slightest danger that the fire will get away.
- 6. How to put out a camp fire.**—Stir the coals while soaking them with water. Turn small sticks and drench both sides. Wet ground around the fire. Be sure the last spark is dead.



FIRE

He would not by a careless word do injury to man,
Nor snatch from life one treasure more than honor truly can.
And yet while passing through the woods one lovely summer day
He lit his pipe and carelessly he threw the match away.

He knew the havoc fire can cause, he knew this friendly foe,
He'd seen at home uncounted times its weight of loss and woe.
Yet he who would not by a word or deed his neighbor wrong,
Flung to the woods a lighted match and calmly moved along.

There followed that one careless deed a forest's dismal fall;
Brave homes which sheltered pioneers and held their little all
Were swallowed by the hungry flames which only rain could stay,
The ruin from one tiny match a man had tossed away.

One may recall the thoughtless word and right the careless deed,
But fire no pity shows to men when once its power is freed.
And many a forest lies today in desolation gray
Because one careless hand had tossed a lighted match away.

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TABLE OF DISTANCES



UNCOMPAHGRE NATIONAL FOREST COLORADO



Uncompahgre Peak from the head of Blue Creek.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE
ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION